

## SENATE RESOLUTION 91

By Kilby

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Mabel Adkins for meritorious service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as excellent public servants and who give freely of their time and resources for the betterment of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Mabel Adkins is one such estimable person who was recently featured in the *Senior Lifestyles 2007* section of the *Morgan County News* for her many years of teaching and for her continued active and outstanding service to her community; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Adkins, who recently celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, is a highly respected and cherished member of the Chestnut Ridge community; she is a charter member of Pleasant Green Church of Nazarene, which was established in 1950; and

WHEREAS, one of fourteen children born to parents, Miller Branstetter, Sr., and Lillie Adams Branstetter, Ms. Adkins graduated from Sunbright High School in 1937; that same year, she married Joe Adkins with whom she shared sixty-eight years of marriage before his death in 2005; and

WHEREAS, the articulate and insightful Ms. Adkins went into teaching during World War II when there was a shortage of teachers; she taught for thirty-eight years, twenty-six of those years at Chestnut Ridge School until it closed; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Adkins was an extremely talented and compassionate educator who worked assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, in addition to teaching and raising two children, Ms. Adkins also earned her bachelor's degree, a journey that took twenty years; and

WHEREAS, as a testament to the positive impact and influence she has had on her students, as well as her longevity as a teacher, Ms. Adkins received a number of letters on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday from former students who wished her well and thanked her for teaching them and their own children; and

WHEREAS, professional accomplishments aside, Mabel Adkins is most grateful for the loving companionship of her children, Portia Davis and Lowell Adkins, and their families, including seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, in her spare time, she enjoys gardening, reading, quilting, writing inspirational proverbs in her notebook, and watching Tennessee sports, especially basketball, on her daughter's television; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mabel Adkins for her dedication to the betterment of the Chestnut Ridge community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Mabel Adkins for her exemplary acts of volunteerism in her community and her many years of meritorious service as a beloved teacher, as we extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.